

Special Medicaid Procedures for Hurricane Katrina Evacuees in Alabama

Procedures:

- Workers will advise the evacuee that the application is a joint application for Medicaid and ALL-Kids programs. If the evacuee does not fall into a category currently covered by Alabama Medicaid, the worker will advise the evacuee that at this time the Agency is not allowed to expand to categories not currently covered, but guidance from CMS or federal legislation may change the current situation. For this purpose, applications will be taken on categories not currently covered by Alabama Medicaid. These applications will be held and not processed at this time.
- If the evacuee has a Medicaid card from Mississippi or Louisiana, workers will advise the evacuee that the card is valid in Alabama. The Alabama Evacuee Medicaid is a temporary eligibility for 4 months. If the evacuee still wants to apply, the worker will take an application. Likewise, if an Alabama Medicaid beneficiary presents an Alabama Medicaid card in another state, the card will be valid in that state.
- If the evacuee states that he or she is on Medicaid in Mississippi or Louisiana but does not have a Medicaid card or number available, the Agency will verify eligibility using established procedures. If eligibility cannot be verified, an evacuee application will be initiated.
- If an evacuee from Mississippi, Louisiana, or Alabama has no Medicaid eligibility, an evacuee application will be taken and processed if the evacuee appears to meet one of the Alabama Medicaid categories. Applications will be taken on categories not currently covered by Alabama Medicaid. These applications will be taken and held. These applications will not be processed at this time.
- If an evacuee applies, the worker will ask questions to determine the appropriate category for eligibility. These questions will include questions about pregnancy, children in the household, whether the evacuee is disabled, etc.
- A streamlined process of self declaration of many eligibility points has been initiated and some eligibility points have been waived. Self declaration include: identity, enumeration, residency, citizenship, age, income, application for other benefits, and family size. Waived points of eligibility are: resources, verification of third party insurance, proof of pregnancy, MLIF relationship, and medical support. In addition, applications can be accepted, if normal proof of the self declared points of eligibility is immediately available, the worker will copy the proof and attach it to the application.
- The Agency must attempt to obtain proof of previous address. This proof can be a driver's license, utility bill, receipt with the name and home state on it, or similar document. Failure to have proof will not disqualify the evacuee.

Process:

- The Agency has developed a two page shortened evacuee application. This application is posted to the Medicaid web site for use by Medicaid, ALL-Kids, FEMA, Red Cross or other volunteers, family members, faith based organizations, or others providing assistance.
- All evacuees should use the evacuee application. Evacuees are any displaced person from Louisiana, Mississippi, or the Alabama federally declared disaster counties .
- Evacuee beneficiaries will receive a paper card. No plastic cards will be issued.
- During the period of the declared emergency, Medicaid will not terminate any currently eligible Medicaid recipients due to a failure to complete and return an annual review form, realizing that many may have been displaced and could not receive mail. These annual reviews will be re-set for a future date.
- Special procedures have been put into place to award eligibility for a four month period, to identify displaced persons and their home state.
- This process will be in place until official guidance is received from CMS or federal legislation is received addressing this process.